

Message Text

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45

ACTION COA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 SCS-03 L-02 EB-07 SCA-01

H-01 INR-07 DLOS-03 PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 PM-03 /051 W

----- 114999

R 201645Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3996

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 1424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, BDIS, PE, EC

SUBJECT: TUNA MOVING NORTH AND WEST OFF ECUADOR

REFS: LIMA 774 AND 873

1. WELL-INFORMED LOCAL TUNA SOURCE MENTIONED REFTELS NOW TELLS US THAT AS OF FEBRUARY 19 THE PRINCIPAL FOREIGN SEINERS FISHING IN ECAUDOREAN-CLAIMED WATERS HAVE MOVED TO NORTHERN ECUADOR AND ARE ALSO MOVING WEST TOWARD THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, AWAY FROM PERU. HE SAID THAT THREE LOCAL PERUVIAN VESSELS WITH ECUADOREAN LICENSES ARE NOW FISHING IN ECUADOREAN WATERS AND THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE TUNA FISHING (BY LOCAL BOATS) IN PERUVIAN-CLAIMED WATERS. HE COMMENTED THAT THIS MOVEMENT AWAY FROM PERU IS A VERY GOOD INDICATION FOR THE MOMENT, ALTHOUGH OF COURSE IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE FOR THE TUNA TO CHANGE DIRECTION ANY TIME BEFORE THE ESTIMATED END OF THE TUNA SEASON, IN APPROXIMATELY MID-MARCH.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, HE SPECULATED THAT SHOULD PERU SEIZE U.S. VESSELS, IT WOULD BE VERY UNLIKELY THAT THE GOP WOULD DECIDE TO FOLLOW THE ECUADORIAN EXAMPLE AND CONFISCATE THE FISH. HE SAID THAT THE PERUVIANS ARE AWARE THAT THE GOE HAS ENCOUNTERED SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES, BOTH IN FINDING
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STORAGE FOR THE CONFISCATED FISH AND SELLING CONFIS-

CATED STOCKS, AND FOR THESE REASONS HE DOES NOT
BELIEVE THEY WOULD FOLLOW THE SAME POLICY.
DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TUNA, REPORTS, FISHING GROUNDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA01424
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750061-0354
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750228/aaaaayxt.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LIMA 774, 75 AND 873
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TUNA MOVING NORTH AND WEST OFF ECUADOR
TAGS: EFIS, PE, EC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006